

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 SCCT-01 SY-05 SCS-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

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SCA:RBOYLIN (INFO)

AF/C:WLCUTLER

----- 128183

O 302309Z MAY 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 126649

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (SMITH, HUNTER)

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPED AMCITS

REFS: BUJUMBURA 0354; KINSHASA 4519; DAR ES SALAAM 1807,
1809, AND 1811

1. WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY LOVING CONTACT WITH BISHOP
CATARZI AND FATHER VAGNI AND AGREE WITH LOVING THAT
VAGNI, WHO NOT ONLY SEEMS WELL EQUIPPED FOR JOB BUT IS
ALSO ACCESSIBLE AND APPARENTLY WILLING, SEEMS BEST
CHOICE AS INTERMEDIARY. PROPOSE THEREFORE THAT LOVING,
MACFARLANE AND STEINER RETURN TO UVIRA TO SEEK VAGNI'S
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FORMAL ASSENT TO ACT IN THIS CAPACITY, OUTLINE TO HIM

BRIEF PROPOSED PARAGRAPH FOUR STATE 125823, AND DISCUSS WITH HIM DETAILS OF HOW HE WOULD ENVISAGE LOCATING KABILA REPS AND CONDUCTING HIS MISSION. BELIEVE METICULOUS ATTENTION MUST BE GIVEN TO QUESTION OF HOW TO MAINTAIN CONTINUING CONTACT WITH GROUP IF INITIAL MEETING DOES NOT SECURE CAPTIVES' RELEASE.

2. LAUNCHING OF MISSION WILL THEN AWAIT RECEIPT OF NEEDED CONCURRENCE FROM GOZ. TO AVOID CONFUSION AND LOSS OF TIME, WE WOULD HOPE AMBASSADOR HINTON COULD ALERT DEVLIN TO SUBSTITUTION OF VAGNI FOR CATARZI AS PROPOSED INTERMEDIARY BEFORE DEVLIN DEPARTS FOR MEETING WITH MOBUTU. IN CONSIDERING DEVLIN PITCH TO MOBUTU, WE RECOGNIZE LOGIC OF COMMENT BY DUTCH AMBASSADOR REPORTED DAR ES SALAAM 1807. WE CONTINUE TO REGARD PUBLIC STATEMENT BY GOZ AS DESIRABLE AND WOULD HOPE MOBUTU CAN BE PERSUADED TO ORDER IT. WE WOULD NOT, HOWEVER, WISH TO INSIST UPON THIS AT RISK OF JEOPARDIZING ESSENTIAL GOZ COOPERATION IN OUR EFFORTS TO MAKE CONTACT WITH KIDNAPPERS AND SECURE RELEASE OF CAPTIVES UNHARMED.

3. SINCE STEINER WOULD NOT BE PROCEEDING WITH VAGNI TO MEET WITH KIDNAPPERS, ASSUME HE WOULD BE WILLING TO TURN OVER TO VAGNI, FOR LATTER'S USE ON MISSION, SOME OF THE BONA FIDES STEINER IS CARRYING WITH HIM. THESE HAVE BEEN PREPARED WITH GREAT INGENUITY AND SHOULD HELP VAGNI IN WINNING KABILA GROUP'S CONFIDENCE. INGERSOLL

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To: KINSHASA DAR ES SALAAM
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